

WATER/SNR/MXK/EYC:jrb**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA****WATER DIVISION****RESOLUTION NO. W-4517****December 16, 2004****R E S O L U T I O N**

(RES. W-4517), CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY (CAL WATER). ORDER AUTHORIZING A 4-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME, REQUESTED ON BEHALF OF CUSTOMER KIM KOCHER, TO SUBMIT A BUILDING PERMIT TO RETAIN HER WATER SERVICE CONNECTION IN CAL WATER'S COAST SPRINGS WATER SYSTEM.

SUMMARY

By Advice Letter No. 1685, filed on October 8, 2004, Cal Water seeks authorization to grant a 4-month extension of time for its customer, Kim Kocher, a lot owner in its Coast Springs district, to submit the building permit required by Decision (D.) 03-03-037 to retain her name on the approved water service connection list for connections without active meters. This resolution grants Cal Water's request.

BACKGROUND

Coast Springs is a small water system serving the Dillon Beach and Oceana Marin areas, approximately four miles west of Tomales in Marin County. Coast Springs is a division of Cal Water's Redwood Valley District. Cal Water's domestic water supply permit for Coast Springs issued by the California Department of Health Services (DHS) on December 18, 2000 provides that it may not exceed 250 service connections. In D.03-03-037, the Commission authorized a three-year moratorium on new service connections above 250 for Coast Springs. The limit is adjusted automatically to any new, higher level that DHS may later permit. In D.04-02-043, DHS concluded that Coast Springs could support an additional five service connections for a new limit of 255. Currently Coast Springs may not exceed 255 service connections until Cal Water has demonstrated to DHS that it has sufficient capacity to handle the additional

connections. At this time, the Coast Springs system has accepted applications for twelve new service connections, and has a waiting list of ten applicants.

September 17, 2004, is 18 months from the mailing date of D.03-03-037, which required in Ordering Paragraph No. 1 that the following special condition be added to tariff Schedule No. RV-CS-1:

Applicants requesting water service that would cause the Coast Springs water system to exceed 250 service connections, or such higher number of connections as DHS may subsequently allow under Coast Springs water system's domestic water supply permit, will be placed on a waiting list. Once additional service connections become available, applicants on the waiting list will be notified in the order they were received. Any previously accepted application for water service in the Coast Springs water system will be revoked if proof of a valid building permit is not provided within 18 months of acceptance of the application for water service or [the date this order was mailed], whichever is later. Applicants who have had their approval revoked in this manner will be placed at the end of the waiting list. This Special Condition shall expire on [three years after the date this order was mailed] absent further order of the Commission.

Ms. Kocher owns a vacant lot in the Coast Springs district with an approved service connection. If Ms. Kocher does not secure a building permit by January 9, 2005, her service connection approval will be revoked and her name will be placed at the end of the waiting list.

DISCUSSION

Ms. Kocher recently closed escrow on a property in the Coast Springs Water System with an approved water connection. D.03-03-037 requires Cal Water to revoke the water connection for the property if a building permit is not submitted on or before January 9, 2005. Ms. Kocher succeeds to the building permit deadline for the prior owner of the property, leaving her less than 3 months to obtain a building permit.

Prior to the close of escrow, Ms. Kocher hired an architect to begin the process of securing a building permit. Ms. Kocher obtained a copy of the soils report that

had been previously ordered for the property. Anticipating delays in building approval from Marin County, Ms. Kocher formally requested by letter dated August 27th that CalWater grant her an extension of time to comply with the building permit requirements.

D.03-03-037 provides that “Revisions and exceptions to the approved connection list procedure and waiting list procedure may be made only with Commission approval. Approval may be either by formal application and decision, or with the concurrence of the Water Division, by advice letter and Commission resolution.” Water Division accepted for filing Cal Water’s Advice Letter No. 1685 on October 8, 2004.

NOTICE

As part of its filing, Cal Water notified all holders of approved service connections, waiting list applicants, owners of unserved lots and others who have requested notification a copy of this advice letter. The Water Division received no protests.

FINDINGS

1. Ms. Kim Kocher closed escrow on property with an approved service connection in Cal Water’s Coast Springs Water System and she is one of twelve customers on the approved service connection list.
2. On January 9, 2005, Ms. Kim Kocher will lose her place on the approved service connection list and her name will be placed at the bottom of the waiting list as she has yet to secure a building permit—as required by Ordering Paragraph No. 1 in D.03-03-037.
3. Ordering Paragraph No. 2 of D.03-03-037 provided for changes and exceptions to the approved connection list procedure and waiting list procedure by Commission resolution.
4. Cal Water supports a four-month extension of time for Ms. Kim Kocher to secure a building permit to retain her name on the approved service connection list.

5. The Water Division has received no protests regarding a time extension for Ms. Kim Kocher.
6. This is an uncontested matter subject to the public notice comment exclusion provided in the PU Code Section 311(g)(3).

THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. California Water Service Company is authorized to allow Ms. Kim Kocher, a lot owner in its Coast Springs Water System, a four-month extension of time to submit the building permit required by D.03-03-037 to retain his name on the approved water service connection list for connections without active meters.
2. This resolution is effective today.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was duly introduced, passed, and adopted at a conference of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California held on December 16, 2004; the following Commissioners voting favorably thereon:

STEVE LARSON
Executive Director